MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 SEPTEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Death of Al-Jumayyil -- President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil was killed by a bomb explosion in the Phalangist Party headquarters in Al-Ashrafiyah, east Beirut, according to a Lebanese Government announcement broadcast by Beirut radio. Al-Jumayyil's funeral will be held on the afternoon of 15 September, the radio said, and a week-long official mourning period has been declared.

Immediately after the explosion, the radio reported that Al-Jumayyil had emerged safely from the collapsed building and was supervising rescue operations. However, Marj 'Uyun Voice of Hope radio subsequently broke the news of the president-elect's death, saying that Al-Jumayyil had "apparently" died in the hospital after being dug out from the rubble. Another rightist station, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, said 26 of Al-Jumayyil's Phalangist colleagues were killed in the blast and 37 others were injured. The "estimated 300 kg" bomb had been placed on the roof of the building and exploded when Al-Jumayyil began a speech on the security plan for east Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Security Situation -- In the wake of Al-Jumayyil's death, the IDF entered west Beirut "to prevent possible serious incidents and to guarantee calm there," the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. Although the spokesman said Israeli forces entered the area without resistance, the clandestine leftist Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said joint forces confronted the Israeli advance using light weapons and rockets. Voice of Lebanon radio spoke of limited battles in the Sports City area early on 15 September and said a whole Israeli brigade has moved toward southwest Beirut. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan denounced the Israeli move as "unjustified" and earlier delayed reopening the Fu'ad Shihab bridge linking east and west Beirut, according to Beirut radio. Radio Free Lebanon reported that Phalangist commanders have reminded their men not to carry weapons.

In the Al-Biqa' Valley, an Israeli tank column was seen advancing toward Syrian-held territory north of Rashayya, Radio Free Lebanon said.

Reaction to Assassination -- Announcing his reaction to Al-Jumayyil's killing over Voice of Lebanon radio, Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed sadness at this "painful and criminal" incident which he said is part of the plotting against Lebanon. The Lebanese Government cautioned the people to be aware of the threat to national security, Beirut radio reported. The radio also said the chairman of the Amal movement Command Council expressed his condolences and called for caution and vigilance. In a statement carried by Voice of Hope radio, "Free Lebanon" Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad expressed sorrow at the death of Al-Jumayyil and called for Israel to increase the strength of its forces in Lebanon to help preserve security.

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin sent a letter to Bashir al-Jumayyil's father, carried by IDF radio, expressing shock at this "criminal assassination." Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir condemned the crime and said it was a "severe blow" to efforts to rebuild and reunite Lebanon, Jerusalem radio asserted. Israeli political sources alleged that the killing is a reminder that Syrian and PLO "terrorists" are still active in Lebanon, HA'ARETZ reported.

The Syrian paper AL-BA'TH asserted that Al-Jumayyil was assassinated "simply" because he was unacceptable to the Lebanese people and the "candidate of the Israeli tanks," Damascus radio reported. The Lebanese people know that Al-Jumayyil's presidency would have turned Lebanon into an obedient tool of Israel and they rejected him from the moment he won the Presidency, AL-BA'TH contended.

Egypt received the news of Al-Jumayyil's death with "great concern" and condemned "any attempt by any non-Lebanese party to exploit the current situation to achieve its goals," according to a Foreign Ministry statement carried by MENA.

Syria

Comment on Forces in Lebanon -- Explaining the motives behind Israel's cease-fire "violations" and continued threats against Syria, a Damascus radio commentary said Israel is replying to the Fes summit resolutions, is trying to weaken the Syrian role in Lebanon so the IDF can occupy the entire country, and is trying to pressure and isolate Syria from its role in the Arab struggle. The commentary stressed that Syria will never relinquish its responsibilities and will continue to defend itself and the Arabs.

Khaddam Receives Junblatt -- Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt to discuss the Lebanese and Arab situations, Damascus radio reported.

Envoy in Tehran -- Before leaving Tehran for Damascus, Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said he had stressed to the Iranians that Syria firmly supports Iran's Islamic revolution and desires the development of Syrian-Iranian relations, SANA reported. Asserting that Syrian and Iranian views on the Fes summit proved to be identical, the Syrian envoy said Iran's criticism of the Fes resolutions was "justifiable." Reports of mediation between Syria and Iraq and of an imminent meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and the Iraqi president are false, he added, and neither the time nor the conditions for a reconciliation are right. Syria is in conflict with the Saddam Husayn regime and hopes for its downfall, he stressed.

PLO

The Fatah Central Committee ended its meetings in Tunis with a decision to approve Fes Arab summit resolutions and a military plan for strengthening Palestinian forces, SPA reported.

Egypt

In an interview with the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said the Camp David process is diseased but that the proposals by U.S. President Ronald Reagan may be the remedy. He underscored that there is no alternative to the autonomy negotiations.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that Egypt has canceled all joint activities with Israel because the time is not ripe for them.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA announced that in retaliation for the Iranian attacks on Iraqi cities Iraqi planes carried out raids on Khark Island oil installations. IRNA reported that Iranian forces hit Iraq's Al-Faw oil installations and killed a number of Iraqi soldiers on the other side of the Shatt al-'Arab.

Iranian Pilgrims in Saudi Arabia

According to IRNA, Saudi Arabia deported 18 Iranian pilgrims who were arrested during a march on 10 September in Mecca. The report claimed that 40 demonstrators had been arrested and 10 are still in detention.

PDRY

PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrived in Moscow for an "official and friendly" visit to discuss bilateral cooperation and issues of mutual concern, Aden radio reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AFP: GOVERNMENT SETTING UP CIVIL DEFENSE BODY

BK141535 Hong Kong AFP in English 1449 GMT 14 Sep 82

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 14 (AFP) -- A secret document leaked in Kabul says the Soviet-backed government of Babrak Karmal is setting up a national civil defence organization to improve security in embattled Afghanistan and to lessen the burden on Soviet and government troops.

All males in the age group 16-55 years will be required to join the organization, which will nationwide [as received], by the beginning of the next Afghan year on March 21, 1983, said Western diplomatic sources quoting the leaks.

Boys in good health and in the age group 10-15 years will also be required to do military training at school and join the organization on coming of age.

The decision to form the organization came in the wake of reports, and an indirect admission by government that the latest conscription drive, launched in July, did not achieve its goal.

There was, however, no independent confirmation of the leaks. The Afghan Embassy here, which generally ignores the Western news media, refused to comment.

The diplomats here said the members of the organization would be given a preliminary training and then arms and uniforms.

They would then be deployed on guard duty to back up the estimated 100,000 Soviet and 30,000-40,000 government troops who now bear the brunt of fighting of the anti-communist, Moslem insurgents in the streets, the diplomats said.

The organization will be under the administrative control of the Afghan Ministry of National Defence, but it will be coordinated by the National Fatherland Front (NFF), set up in late 1980 to rope in support from the Moslem clergy, tribes and independent prominent Afghans, the diplomats said.

The diplomats said it would enable the government to bring into the regime's fold those Afghans who have so far evaded conscription due to the age limit.

Initially the members of the organization will be put on guard duty in Kabul, Herat, Qandahar and Nangarhar Provinces but eventually they will be deployed in all the provinces.

The leaks came in the wake of strong rumours in Kabul that the government was going to increase the conscription age from the existing 39-55 years [as received]. Panic gripped the city and eligible residents were seen fleeing.

The government was forced to make a public announcement over the state-owned television network denying the age limit was being increased. A senior official of the Ministry of National Defence appeared on TV and announced that the age remained at 39 years, the diplomats said.

The panic was stemmed but apprehension returned after the leaks on the proposed setting-up of the organization.

The diplomats said the move might be part of a mistaken government attempt to get information on eligible Afghans, who had so far evaded conscription.

In a campaign launched last July, the government had sought to recruit some 60,000 troops to make up the losses suffered during the previous three years of fighting Moslem insurgents and other opponents of communist rule.

But despite efforts that included a draft law revision on July 23 raising the maximum eligible age to 39, the drive only netted about one-tenth of the target, earlier reports quoting Western diplomats had said.

A secret document allegedly seized by Moslem insurgents in a recent attack on government troops near Kabul's army headquarters said the Soviet advisers "concerned over large defections" had taken control of all Afghan Army postings and transfers, according to a report from Pakistan quoting resistance sources.

Meanwhile, diplomats here said several residential districts of the Afghan capital had been subject to house-to-house searches, possibly for eligible conscripts and Moslem insurgents hiding there.

Insurgents are keeping up their resistance in Kabul and on September eight insurgents killed at least seven communist party members near the Soviet-built grain silo in Kabul.

For the first time in recent months, Soviet troops were seen patrolling Kabul streets one hour before the curfew started.

Diplomats had little information on the continuing fighting in the strategic Panjsher Valley, north-west of Kabul, where Soviet forces launched a major offensive last month.

The diplomats confirmed reports that over 1,500 new Soviet troops have arrived there to aid Soviet and government forces already stationed there and the valley, a traditional insurgent stronghold ever since the Marxist [as received] came to power in April 1978, has been heavily bombed.

The direction of the Soviet planes suggested that some of them might have taken off in Soviet Union and not from the Kabul International Airport or the Baghram air base near the Afghan capital, the sources said.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DEPARTS FOR USSR

LD141752 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister 'Abdolmajid Sarboland left for the Soviet Union today to attend the ceremonies to be held in that country marking Afghan cultural week. He was seen off at Kabul International Airport by some members of the PDPA Central Committee and Council of Ministers and by the Soviet ambassador in Afghanistan.

BRIEFS

SOVIET DELEGATION -- A delegation of the USSR Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, led by Anatoliy Sofronov, deputy head of this committee, today arrived in Kabul at the invitation of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization. The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Dr Sara, deputy head, and some members of the above organization. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 7 Sep 82 LD]

GAS, OIL PRODUCTION -- Kabul, Sept 5, BAKHTAR -- Over 15 billion afghanis were earned by the state from the sales of gas last Afghan year, ending March 20, 1981. This represents nearly half of the government budget in the DRA. The gas extraction and transportation department last year produced 2,761 million cubic metres of gas, which shows an increase of 121 million cubic metres over the plan targets. Also, during the same year the workers produced 8,545 thousand litres of oil condensates, which exceeds the planned target by 246 thousand litres. Next year it is planned to raise the production of the existing wells by well over 3 billion cubic metres. By exploiting the new gas wells it is envisaged to raise the production by 32 billion cubic metres annually. [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 6 Sep 82 LD]

SPOKESMAN PRAISES 'UNITY' SHOWN AT FES SUMMIT

BK141339 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Bangladesh has expressed great satisfaction at the highly successful outcome of the summit meeting of the heads of Arab states just concluded in Fes.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Dacca today that the formal display of unity by the Arab leaders has ushered in a new era for the Muslim umma [nation]. Bangladesh warmly welcomed the Arab peace plan adopted in the summit meeting as an achievement for the 900 million Muslims of the world. Bangladesh believes that this initiative would lead to the permanent peace in the Middle East and achieve for the heroic people of Palestine their legitimate right, including an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

The spokesman said Bangladesh also expects with sincere hope that peace and stability will soon prevail in Lebanon.

ERSHAD COMMISSIONS NEW SUBMARINE, NOTES PRC AID

BK111217 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt Gen H. M. Ershad has said an efficient navy is a necessity in view of the country's long coastal belt and for geographic and economic reasons. Speaking on the commissioning ceremony of the submarine treasure of the Bangladesh Navy, BNS "Durjoy", in Dacca yesterday, General Ershad said the nation must have a strong navy to ensure free movement within its maritime boundary to maintain the process of economic progress. He said the commissioning of this new ship would enable the naval force to play a stronger role in guarding the maritime boundary and the sovereignty of the country as a whole.

The CMLA pointed out that the maritime area of the country has great potentials from the economic point of view which, he observed, is as precious as that of the mainland.

Our marine resources must be exploited to make the country's overall economy more dynamic. General Ershad said every citizen, military and civilian, should work shoulder to shoulder for the materialization of the dream of building a new Bangladesh.

The CMLA conveyed his sincere thanks to the people and Government of China for extending the hands of cooperation and friendship and hoped that the submarine treasure will further strengthen the bonds of cooperation between Bangladesh and China.

FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION LEAVES FOR BANGKOK, PRC

BK111353 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] An eight-member friendship delegation led by Ataur Rahman Khan [president of the defunct Bangladesh Jatiya League] left Dacca last night for Bangkok on way to China on a 2-weeks' visit. The delegation will visit various places of historical importance in China.

FINANCE MINISTER VIEWS WORLD BANK, IMF MEETING

BK141613 Hong Kong AFP in English 1330 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 14 (AFP) -- The outcome of the just concluded meeting of the IMF and World Bank at Toronto was not "totally negative," Indian Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said here today.

Mr. Mukherjee, who returned Monday from the week-long meeting, told the press that despite the crisis that had overtaken the International Development Agency (IDA), the soft lending arm of the World Bank, most donor countries had agreed to make their full contributions to it for the fiscal year ending June 1983.

However, he did not minimise the uncertainties ahead over the scale of IDA's general operations after 1984 or India's share in it.

The World Bank has assured India total assistance of 2,200 million dollars for the fiscal year 1983.

Because of the U.S.'s staggered contribution to IDA, which ran short of funds in fiscal year 1982, India received more in bank loans than soft IDA credits last year.

Mr. Mukherjee said it was hoped that this "aberration" would be overcome now and that for the next two years the blend of bank and IDA assistance to India would change for the better.

Mr. Mukherjee said the Toronto meeting drew a blank on the developing countries demand for the new allocation of special drawing rights (SDRs) which would give them unconditional liquidity to enable them to meet their increased balance of payments needs.

Asked whether India's share of IDA assistance, which had come down from 40 percent to 34 percent in 1981, would decline further with China's claim, he said what India received would depend on the total resources of the IDA.

BANKING TIES WITH AFGHANISTAN TO BE IMPROVED

BK141642 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] India and Afghanistan are to have closer links in the field of banking. An Indian delegation is to visit Afghanistan shortly for this purpose. This has been indicated in the agreed minutes of the Indo-Afghan trade talks which concluded in New Delhi today. The two countries have also identified cities to facilitate flow of trade information.

SITUATION IN MEERUT IMPROVING; 450 ARRESTED

BK101612 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] The situation in Meerut is improving. An official spokesman told newsmen in Lucknow today that there was no incident in the curfew-bound areas in the city. However, one incident of stabbing in which one person died has been reported from the Naya bazaar locality which is a noncurfew area. Over 450 persons have been arrested so far.

Curfew Continues

BK130427 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] The situation in Meerut is fast returning to normal. An official spokesman told our Lucknow correspondent a short while ago that no untoward incident has been reported from any part of the city. However, curfew continues as a precautionary measure.

INTERNAL SECURITY MEASURES TO BE REINFORCED

GF141203 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Sep 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] Lahore, Sept 10 -- In view of the increasing cases of sabotage and terrorism stringent measures are being considered for security reasons specially in the issuance of passports and national identity cards.

Well-placed official sources told DAWN here today that a decision to this effect was taken at a high-level meeting, recently held in the federal capital.

According to the decisions taken at the meeting, the entire network of detection and investigation would be reinforced and the areas for such activities would be widened. Services of the retired personnel would be acquired as full time employees.

Instructions have also been issued under special orders of the higher authorities to conduct enquiries against all such persons who, in one way or the other, tried to influence investigation proceedings in connection with the suspect saboteurs.

The investigation agencies and the departments concerned had disclosed the names of some very infiuential and authoritative officials for protecting certain elements who were required for interrogation for being allegedly involved in a very important case of forged identity cards. One of these cards was issued to a recognised saboteur against whom proceedings are in progress.

Under new arrangements, in future, the suspected applications for passport would be sent to the registration office of the area for necessary checking and would also be referred to the intelligence and investigation agency for scrutiny and clearance. Similarly such application for the issuance of identity cards would also be referred to the agencies concerned for necessary action. The councillors of the area attesting documents, the commission agents attesting forms would also be enquired if necessary.

According to a roughly calculated estimate, thousands of national identity cards and passports had been issued to the Afghan nationals now in Pakistan and to a number of other suspects required by the government in various cases.

These cards and passports also include the forged one as well.

Official agencies are busy to detect the exact number of forged cards and passports.

Recommendations have also been forwarded to the authorities concerned to declare as illegal the business of either the registered or unregistered vendors and commission agents presently dealing in the sales of official forms and stamps and also serving as middle men for the attestation of documents.

UN ENVOY TO VISIT ISLAMABAD, KABUL, TEHRAN

BK140625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] The UN secretary general's special envoy, Cordovez, is expected to visit Islamabad, Kabul and Tehran either before or after the debate on the Afghanistan issue at the UN General Assembly. This was stated by Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik while giving details of his Moscow visit to newsmen yesterday. He also expressed the hope that UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar will give details of his talks with Soviet President Brezhnev on the Afghanistan issue when the foreign minister visits New York to attend the UN General Assembly session.

AL-ASAD ENVOY SPEAKS ON SYRIA-IRAQ RELATIONS

JN141044 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, 14 Sep (SANA) -- Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, information minister and President Hafiz al-Asad's personal envoy, left Tehran for Damascus this morning, accompanied by Assistant Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur, at the end of a 2-day visit to Iran.

He was seen off at Tehran airport by Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, minister of state for executive affairs, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, political adviser to the foreign minister, and Mustapha Mi Mir-Salim, the president's representative.

In a statement before leaving Tehran, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said: I have conveyed a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to President 'Ali Khamene'i, dealing with the results of the recent Arab summit conference in Fes. We have also conveyed to the Islamic revolution leadership in Tehran our viewpoints regarding the work and results of the conference.

He added: During our meetings here we stressed our firm and principled stand in support of the Islamic revolution in Iran against all its reactionary enemies inside and outside Iran. We have also stressed our firm stand to work continuously for the development and enhancement of our strong good ties. Our relations are really good and the horizons of their development are broad and good. Together we will seek to quickly develop these relations in order to shorten the path of struggle and attain our objectives which serve our people and contribute to its development and protection.

Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad added: I have also met with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafeanjani and held talks with him on the Arab and international situation and its impact on the situation in the region. The talks centered on the Fes summit and its agenda. At the end of the talks we found that our viewpoints are identical and that we have common aims and a common will to develop and consolidate relations between our two countries and peoples. During the two meetings I briefed His Excellency President Khamene'i and Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani on our principled and firm stands in commendation and support of this revolution. We have considered the Iranian revolution the most important event in the second half of the 20th century. We have also considered it a positive development in this age. This revolution has turned the Iranian people and capabilities from an alliance with Israel and the enemies into an alliance with the Arabs, struggling with against Zionism and U.S. imperialism for the sake of liberating holy Jerusalem.

In reply to a question, the information minister said: I am carrying very good and satisfactory impressions about the two fraternal meetings I held in Tehran. I am carrying a message for President Hafiz al-Asad inviting him again to visit his brothers in Iran in order to exchange ideas with them on issues of common interest. I am also carrying the sincere desire of the Iranian president and Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani to work together toward further development of relations. I am returning to Syria happy and satisfied with the mission I have accomplished in Tehran.

Asked about the Iranian Foreign Ministry statement which denounces the resolutions of the Fes summit conference, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said: The Iranian Foreign Ministry's attack on the Fes summit resolutions is justifiable.

Asked about a meeting that took place between President Hafiz al-Asad and Saddam Husayn at the Fes summit and about news agency reports that another meeting would take place between President al-Asad and Saddam, the Syrian minister said that no such meeting took place and that the reports on it were false. He asserted that President Hafiz al-Asad did not meet with Saddam Husayn for political talks but met him at a luncheon hosted by Moroccan King Hassan II, chairman of the conference, outside Fes.

He added that, at this luncheon held in Ifrane, some 60 km from Fes in the Atlas Mountains, protocol required that President Hafiz al-Asad sit at one table with King Hassan, King Fahd, the amir of Kuwait, King Husayn and Saddam Husayn. The reports about mediation were completely baseless, he asserted.

Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad added: Nobody in Syria would have welcomed such mediation if it had taken place, because the wounds created by the Iraqi regime through the crimes of sabotage and murder it committed in Syria are deep. These wounds will need a very long time to heal.

Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said: We are in a conflict with the Iraqi regime. That regime hopes for our removal, and we certainly hope for its removal as soon as possible.

The Syrian minister said: The reports about mediation and an imminent meeting in Riyadh, or elsewhere, between President Hafiz al-Asad and the head of the Iraqi regime are absolutely false and baseless.

Asked about Saddam Husayn's statement to Kuwaiti journalists that he hopes to improve relations between Iraq and Syria, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said: I have read this, but I repeat that the time for reconciliation has not come and the conditions for such reconciliation are not available. The Syrian minister said that Syria insists on its stand.

Replying to another question, the Syrian minister said that the resolution the summit conference had adopted on the Arab-Israeli conflict does not call on the United Nations [presumably the General Assembly] but on the Security Council, to provide guarantees for peace in the Arab region. Such a call, he said, does not in any way imply recognition of the Zionist entity, although it does, in some aspects, end the state of war. Such matters are understandable in international law and world relations.

RAFSANJANI, JAPANESE ENVOY DISCUSS GULF SECURITY

LD141726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] The Japanese ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran met and had talks with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, this morning. According to an IRNA report, during that meeting the Japanese ambassador, while referring to the economic importance of the Persian Gulf and the Hormuz Strait, said: The Hormuz Strait is extremely important to the world from the economic standpoint, and we thank you for safeguarding the security of this vital region, because we attach tremendous importance to the security of the Persian Gulf.

Emphasizing the long-standing economic relations between the two countries, he expressed the hope that the talks between the two countries on the petrochemical complex in Bandar-e Imam Khomeyni would be crowned with positive results.

Referring to Iran's economic policy toward Japan during the meeting, the speaker of the Majlis emphasized the expansion of bilateral relations between the two countries. The Majlis speaker, referring to Iraq's war imposed on Iran, then said: Iraq is lying when it says it desires peace and that it has withdrawn from our country. Saddam's supporters do not allow him to submit to right. He has merely withdrawn to a safe zone. Of course, we should enter Iraq to force him to withdraw completely from our soil and give us our rights. The regime ruling Iraq should understand that we are serious. On the other hand, we think that it is in the interest of world peace for an aggressor, who has inflicted all these losses, to be punished.

In conclusion referring to Persian Gulf security, the Majlis speaker said: The security of the Persian Gulf is in our interest, and we will keep it safe unless some day people do not allow us to utilize this security. Should that security be denied us, then we would not allow it to remain secure for others, because we deem this to be logical.

The report concludes that the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassadors to Somalia and the FRG also separately met and had talks with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani this afternoon.

OFFICIAL, SOVIET ENVOY DISCUSS RELATIONS

LD141122 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Vil Boldyrev, the new Soviet ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, went to the Foreign Ministry this morning and held talks with Mr Mansuri, consular and cultural under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, regarding the expansion of relations and cultural, national and artistic talks between the two countries.

During this meeting, Mansuri offered a few comments explaining the stands taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the expansion of the relations between the two countries and the imposed war. He expressed the hope that officials in other countries will bear in mind the facts and realities regarding the Islamic revolution in the course of all their policies, maintain a positive and constructive attitude in various fields toward the Islamic Republic of Iran and base their relations on just policies.

ECONOMY MINISTER RETURNS FROM IMF MEETING

GF111708 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA -- An Iranian economic mission headed by Minister of Economics and Finance Dr. Hoseyn Namazi, who had gone to Toronto, Canada, to attend the 37th joint session of the International Monetary Fund [IMF] and the World Bank, returned to Tehran this morning.

In this session, Dr Namazi criticised the present policies adopted by the IMF and the World Bank and called for the elimination of hegemony of superpowers over these two organisations.

NURBAKHSH VIEWS FOREIGN EXCHANGE SITUATION

LD111044 Tehran IRNA in English 0934 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Bonn, Sept. 11 (IRNA) -- Iran's top bank official Friday declared that his country's foreign exchange reserves were increasing and said that Iran had no intention to sell its shares in foreign countries.

Central Bank of Iran (CBI) Governor Mohsen Nurbakhsh in an interview said that the Iranian investments in the Krupp and Babcock companies were giving profit and pointed out "there is no question of selling these shares."

He said that the foreign exchange reserves were in such a good shape that Iran could buy more shares and invest in more foreign companies or banks except those of the United States.

Nurbakhsh is here to attend the annual meeting of the board of directors of the Krupp.

He said that the foreign exchange reserves of Iran were in a good shape because of "the correct policies of the country."

Another reason for the increase in the Iranian reserves, he said, [is] the recovery of defunct shah's capital which had been transferred to the CBI.

Nurbakhsh denied alleged sale of gold by Iran and remarked: "We even have purchased more gold in order to improve our foreign exchange reserves."

Referring to the export of oil and recent fuss being made by the Iraqi regime, he said that the Iranian exports of oil stood at from 1.7 to 2 million barrels a day.

The CBI chief said no oil tanker so far was attacked by the Iraqi forces.

To facilitate the foreign oil tankers Iran introduced a new insurance system through which Iran insurance company would insure these tankers at the rate of one per cent which previously applied for cargo ships.

Moreover, he said, in case of the damage the Iran insurance company would pay the losses on the very day at the international official exchanges. He said that contacts with the British banks were underway in this connection.

Nurbakhsh refuted the reports [as received] and said that Iran did not sell oil to the U.S. but pointed out that the Iranian oil might find its way to that country through international oil agents.

TEHRAN CRITICIZES UK OFFICIALS' VISIT TO REGION

GF141712 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Excerpts] While the Thatcher government is facing the most difficult social and economic problems and while it is preparing for allout strikes, two British ministers are making intensive visits to the Islamic region.

Douglas Hurd, British minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, is making an intensive tour which includes Egypt and Abu Dhabi; and John Nott, British minister of defense, is shuttling from one capital to another signing arms transactions and military treaties with the regimes in the region. The question is: What are the goals of the new British diplomacy in the Islamic region?

From the identity of the two British ministers, we can deduce that the nature of the task assigned to them is political, military and economic all at once. When we link the timing of the visits with the recent events in the Islamic arena, an armed invasion of Lebanon and submissive plans for settlement, we can find a way to discuss the real British goals during the current phase of our troubled region.

Britain, like other imperialist countries, wants to get a piece of the action and will not get this piece unless it actually enters the arena. British policy has always adopted silence and observation during the fluctuation of events because the British mission usually begins after the fire of war dies down and the course of events ceases to run. In sedition, Britain is like the (?scavenger) looking for easy food. This has always been its policy during historical events in the Islamic region -- among which were recent events in Lebanon.

Britain has always been just a spectator waiting for the right opportunity to gather the spoils. This has always been the case. After the war had come to an end and the rulers sat in Fes seeking solutions, the British Government felt the time had come to reap the harvest. Therefore, it sent two of its ministers who shouldered the burdens of aggravating problems in Britain.

The general task of the two British ministers in the Middle East is to sign new arms transactions with the governments of the region. Foremost of these arms are reconnaissance planes whose military tasks are equal to the AWACS planes. Apparently one of the tasks assigned to the two British ministers is the safeguarding of the regime in Baghdad from its inevitable fall because the fall of this regime will cause Britain to lose more than $1 billion per year earned by British companies through various agreements with this oppressive regime in Iraq.

However, it is regrettable that our Islamic region remains as usual a foothold for the British ministers every time an economic crisis grips Britain. The region remains a foothold for those ministers who come to our countries looking for the medicine that cures the inherited British disease which finds no cure but in the blood of the sons of the oppressed Islamic nation. What matters after all is that old Great Britain remains healthy and sound. This is the logic of rulers who today receive the British ministers and yesterday received their princess and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,047

LD141756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,047 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Sporadic artillery and mortar exchanges between the combatants of the ground forces and Saddam's Ba'thist mercenaries continued during the past 24 hours in the Bakhtaran and Ilam regions. As a result of these fire exchanges, one enemy military vehicle was damaged and enemy forces were halted.

The powerful combatants of Islam stationed in the Pavch operational sector silenced the fire of the misguided Iraqi forces. Thanks to the fire of our brave gendarmerie forces in the Shur-e Shirin sector, Saddamist forces suffered some losses.

One Iraqi aircraft, which was trying to bomb the Musian region, was forced to flee by the timely fire of the air defense unit stationed in the region.

Sporadic artillery exchanges continued on all southern fronts between the heroes of our country's armed forces and Saddam's devotees. In the Kushk sector the enemy's desperate efforts were obvious.

The gendarmerie fired on enemy positions and fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroying several slit trenches and foxholes of the Saddamists and killing or wounding several of the enemy.

The steadfast city of Abadan enjoyed relative calm. The sound of the enemy's long-range shells could be heard from time to time. Enemy mortar fire destroyed two houses and set fire to another.

Any violations of our airspace by Iraqi aircraft during the past 24 hours were repulsed by our fighter planes and the antiaircraft fire of the alert personnel of the air defense units.

On 12 September one of the brave warriors of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran gained the exalted status of martyrdom.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRAQI AL-FAW OIL INSTALLATIONS SHELLED

GF141722 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Sept 14, IRNA -- The Al-Faw oil installations, southern Iraq, were damaged over the past 24 hours as it came under the fire of the Islamic combatants which killed or wounded 29 Iraqi soldiers beyond the Arvand River.

In these operations, the Iranian artillery fire also demolished three machine gun positions, four group bunkers and three dug-outs.

Also, during this same time, the Gendarmerie forces of the Islamic Republic shelled the enemy's positions beyond the Arvand River, killing or wounding 25 Iraqi Ba'thists as well as halting the enemy's movements and pounding eight Iraqi trenches and rallying places.

REVOLUTION GUARDS CAPTURE REBEL COMMAND CENTER

LD141812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced:

According to a report from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada central headquarters, following the successful operations by the combatants of Islam which resulted in the capture of one of the important command centers of the counterrevolutionary elements in the village of Turjan, situated 30 km inside the Bukan-Saqqez heights, more than 30 counterrevolutionaries were killed and 3 of them were arrested. The zealous warriors of Islam also seized 20 RPG-11 missiles.

REBELS KILL GUARDS IN PIRANSHAHR, TEHRAN

GF150443 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondents, three bases of the mercenary guards in the hills in Piranshahr were destroyed. Numerous guards were killed in the clashes with the combatant Kurds.

Similarly, quite a few guards, including Hamid Behnud, one of the operations commanders of Tehran's District 2 committee, were killed in armed skirmishes in Tehran.

Meanwhile, the Mojahedin-e Khalq of Iran [MKO] issued a communique in Paris announcing that in operations in Piranshahr the day before yesterday, the Mojahedin destroyed three of Khomeyni's repressive bases using RPG-7's, and grenade launchers. This attack took place 2 days after Khomeyni's forces raided Piranshahr.

According to the same report, in a series of armed struggles last week, numerous Khomeyni guards were killed. Hamid Behnud, who was killed in these clashes, had survived nine attempts on his life up to that time, according to the MKO. The authorities of Khomeyni's regime have interred the lackey Behnud by Beheshti's side. Among the other merciless pawns of the regime identified so far who were killed in Tehran last week, are: Qasem Jaberzadeh, Asghar Shafa'i, Abol FAzl Khusheh and Mohammad Taqi Hajj Heydari.

NVOI CALLS FOR END TO 'ANTI-SOVIETISM'

TA141545 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Unattributed commentary: "What Are Our Homeland's People Thinking About?"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Our homeland's people, both in Tehran and in other towns, are talking most of all about the existing day-to-day difficulties and the lack of speed in the revolution's progress, and asking why the goals the imam set for the revolution have not been reached. This indicates what sort of issues the people and all those who believe and have faith in the revolution are focusing their attention on.

Our homeland's people are rightly concerned about the complex situation brought about in our homeland's economy due to the economic terrorism of the well-to-do and satanic strata, the increase in unemployment, the decrease in industrial production and the rise in inflation. There is no doubt that many of these difficulties facing our ever-on-the-scene nation are due to the conspiracy of the foes of the revolution within and abroad and to imperialist and counterrevolutionary elements who have changed color and infiltrated government organizations. Covert and overt plots, attempts to undermine Iran's economy and isolate our Islamic Republic in the international arena have deepened the onerous consequences of world-devouring America's piratic interventions in our homeland's internal affairs. The war imposed by imperialism and its agents on our homeland is a heavy burden on our country's economy.

In addition to all these serious problems a series of contradictory measures and decisions at the government level have [word indistinct] the country's economy.

The counterrevolution and the elements of imperialism are striving to sow discord among the true believers in the consistent struggle against imperialism. Resorting to various ploys, these elements are striving to place the true patriots under fire, and to increase restrictions against the revolutionary forces who truly had a noticeable role in the course of the revolution. All these activities are for the sake of satisfying and implementing the aims of the elements of the counterrevolution and world-devouring America, and for the sake of satisfying those who hope that the revolution will be stifled as a result of the intensification of differences and internal polarization. Reaction here and abroad is striving to exploit these difficulties to intensify domestic disputes and to force the various forces into an open clash and confrontation. The calculation of these foes is that as a result of attacks and disputes the Islamic Republic will be weakened, and inevitably it will be diverted from the course set by the imam.

Unfortunately, some of the authorities, either as a result of lack of understanding of the revolution's content, or due to other motives and thoughts, are preventing the revolution's progress and perpetuation on its anti-imperialist and popular course. They place world-devouring America -- the enemy of the Iranian revolution -- on the same level with the Soviet Union, which has always defended our Islamic Republic against various imperialist aggressions. These mischiefmakers are definitely not part of the true forces of the revolution and the sincere followers of the imam's line. Under various guises, those ignorant friends and wise enemies of the revolution are in the service of certain circles who by exploiting anti-Sovietism want to divert public opinion from the main enemy of our revolution and nation -- namely, world-devouring America -- and focus it on an imaginary enemy. Unfortunately, these elements still have influence in various echelons and enjoy the necessary facilities to carry out their subversive measures against our nation's glorious revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It must not be forgotten that anti-Sovietism is a part of the plots of imperialism against the revolution and the imam of the nation. From the very first days of the revolution the foes of the revolution have exerted all their efforts to strain Iran's relations with the Soviet Union in order to isolate revolutionary Iran against the United States. Our nation is aware of this and it is for this reason that it is concerned about the present situation. The nation rightly wants the realistic officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to put an end to this policy of anti-Sovietism. On the basis of the previous bitter experiences and the difficulties arising from the struggle against imperialism and its agents, our nation is well aware who its friends and enemies are.

NVOI RAPS IRANIAN DEFENSE OF AFGHAN REBELS

TA131226 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 12 September carried a commentary entitled "The Confessions of a Pakistani Officer."

It stated that although all documents and evidence confirm the close relations between the leaders of so-called Islamic organizations of Afghan fugitives with the espionage and intelligence organizations of the United States, Egypt and some Persian Gulf countries, some people in our country still continue to insist on defending these counterrevolutionaries.

Recently, at a press conference in Kabul, a captured Pakistani officer confessed that along with a group of saboteurs he was dispatched to Afghanistan on the direct orders of American and Chinese experts. The confessions of the Pakistani officer and other captured Afghan counterrevolutionaries are confirmation of the fact that what is of utmost importance to the American experts in training the Afghan fugitives in Pakistan is murder, terror, sabotage and the killing of innocent and defenseless people in Afghanistan -- namely, the very thing that the counterrevolution carries out in our own homeland, Iran.

What is surprising is that sometimes our mass media, under the influence of the intimation of imperialist news agencies wittingly, or unwittingly, feed the people precisely that which is fabricated by these news agencies about Afghanistan. If bomb explosions and sabotage are proof of a national resistance against the existing system, then what do you call the planting of bombs, assassinations and killings that take place in our own country? Is the mere explosion of bombs, sabotage, terror and murder proof of the existence of a resistance or a popular liberation movement? Can every incident of sabotage, planting of bombs, explosion and the killing of some unarmed and innocent people be considered an Islamic movement or a popular liberation movement? America and its allies support the Iranian counterrevolutionaries with the utmost power, they also support the Afghan counterrevolutionary dregs who commit murder and sabotage under the mask of the Islamic mujahid. The support of the United States, Israel and the reactionary regimes for these so-called Afghan mujahidin must open everyone's eyes and ears.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has a popular and anti-imperialist system and inevitably is our ally in the struggle against imperialism and the counterrevolution. "Obstinacy and stubborness must be replaced with realism, and the hand of friendship that has been extended toward us by the fraternal nation and the government of the people's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan should be warmly and brotherly clasped."

BRIEFS

SHIPPING CONTRACT WITH JAPAN -- Bandar 'Abbas, Sept 13 (IRNA) -- According to a Hormozgan Province public affairs official, an 80 billion yen ship manufacturing contract was signed with a Japanese company in order to restore the maritime plant of the Persian Gulf. This project was approved by members of the board of directors of Iran's organisation of expansion and renewal of industries. In the session, the representative of Japanese Fuji Bank and the deputies of the Japanese Embassy in Tehran were present. [Tehran IRNA in English 1631 GMT 13 Sep 82 GF]

AHVAZ STEEL COMPLEX -- Tehran, Sep 11, IRNA -- The Ahvaz steel complex is to start operation shortly. The complex will have an annual production rate of about 2.2 million tons of sponge iron, and about 1.9 million tons of pig steel. The pig steel to be produced by the complex will be transported to the Kavian rolling mills plant wherein it will be cut into steel bars and sheet iron in various sizes. The deputy minister of mines and metals and managing director of National Iranian Steel Company, Salehi Foruz, said here today that the machinery and parts needed for the Kavian rolling mills plant were being transported to Iran from West Germany. The products of the mill are mainly armatures in different sizes, iron bars, profile iron, seamless pipes, barbed wires, iron networks, and soldering electrodes. The unit for the manufacturing of seamless iron was left unfinished after the culmination of the Islamic revolution, but was later completed solely by Iranian technicians and workers. [Tehran IRNA in English 1948 GMT 11 Sep 82 LD]

NEW ROCKET LAUNCHER -- Tehran, Sep 11, IRNA -- An Iranian artillery major has designed a katyusha rocket launcher consisting of sixty projectiles. The newly designed katyusha rocket launcher is mounted on a captured Iraqi tank. The artillery major in an interview with SAFF magazine, issued by the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, described the functions of his invention. Firstly, he said that the additional rocket designs, and equipment were from the battle front and the invention itself was also completed at the fronts. The tank is able to shoot singularly or all missiles can be fired simultaneously. It can fire [from] either a stationary or mobile position, and also traverse all types of terrains. The new invention also performs similar "katyusha" functions. The inventor concluded by saying that if approved by the [word indistinct] officials all parts and ammunitions can be produced in Iran. [Tehran IRNA in English 1952 GMT 11 Sep 82 LD]